



State of South Carolina
Office of The Lieutenant Governor

André Bauer
Lieutenant Governor

Office on Aging
Cornelia D. Gibbons
Director

Media Advisory:
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**\$7,000 Grant from Lt. Governor's Office on Aging Will Support
Alzheimer's Education Program Serving Chester, Lancaster,
Union and York Counties**

- **Who:** The Catawba Area Agency on Aging, Executive Director, Barbara Robinson. Ms. Robinson can be contacted at (803) 329-9670.
- **What:** This local organization that serves senior citizens and their families in your community was recently awarded a \$7,000 grant from the South Carolina Lt. Governor's Office on Aging to support an Alzheimer's disease education program.
- **When:** On June 28, Lt. Governor André Bauer will personally present the grant award to program leaders. Photographs of the award presentation will be available for news organizations unable to attend.
- **Where:** The grant awards ceremony will take place at the Statehouse in Columbia. Lt. Governor Bauer's Office is on the first floor.

Background:

For several years, the Catawba Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has been at the forefront of efforts to address the needs of Alzheimer's sufferers and their families in the four-county area of Chester, Lancaster, Union and York. Those efforts just received a much-needed boost in the form of a \$7,000 grant from the South Carolina Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center – part of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging.

The agency has participated in project COPE, a national Alzheimer's demonstration project and has provided direct services to Alzheimer's patients using previous ARCC and Catawba Mental Health grants. Through its efforts with these projects, the Catawba AAA has been instrumental in developing a comprehensive network of support services and improving public understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease.

The Catawba AAA provides information, education materials and training to families and care givers of people with the disease, family medical practices, and regional human services workers such as home health personnel and case managers. They also provide training for direct care staff such as Certified Nurses Assistant's in nursing homes and residential care facilities in the Catawba region.

The education grant and program are supported by numerous other community agencies and private sector service providers, including Interim HealthCare in Rock Hill, the Kershaw Community Health Education Center, Home Health, Inc. of Rock Hill, the Fort Mill/Tega Cay Adult Day Center, and Total Care Home Health Services.

The Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center (ARCC) in the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging was created to provide statewide coordination, service system development, information and referral, and caregiver support services to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, their families and caregivers. Legislation directs the center to:

- Initiate the development of systems which coordinate the delivery of programs and services
- Facilitate the coordination and integration of research, program development, planning and quality assurance
- Identify potential users of services and gaps in the service delivery system and expand methods and resources to enhance statewide services
- Serve as a resource for education, research and training and provide information and referral services
- Provide technical assistance for the development of support groups and other local initiatives to serve individuals, families and caregivers
- Recommend public policy concerning Alzheimer's disease and related disorders to state policymakers
- Submit an annual report to the Joint Legislative Committee on Aging and to the General Assembly

A detailed county-by-county demographic look at South Carolina's senior population based on the 2000 federal census can be found at www.scmatureadults.org . The report Mature Adults in South Carolina is a publication of the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging.